

**2015 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

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Rep. Don L. Tripp
Rep. Bob Wooley
Rep. John L. Zimmerman

Work Plan

The Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 27, 2015. The committee proposes to focus on the following topics.

1. Water management, research, litigation and projects, including testimony on the following agenda items:

- a. reports required by statute from the state engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission;
- b. New Mexico Universities Working Group water supply vulnerabilities study final report;
- c. active water resource management implementation and water banking;
- d. Gila River planning process and projects (federal Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004);
- e. acequia issues and concerns;
- f. state and regional water plans update process;
- g. long-term financing of forest and watershed treatment and restoration and forest health;
- h. report on the Mid-Rio Grande Levee Task Force's study of the Rio Grande levees within Valencia, Bernalillo and Sandoval counties;
- i. water project financing programs and process;
- j. regional water authorities;
- k. water leasing process requirements;
- l. water adjudications and the Taos (Abeyta) water rights settlement;
- m. determination of amount of water allowed for replacement and supplemental wells;
- n. drought update/reservoir levels/seasonal outlook;
- o. water litigation update;
- p. protestant standing in water rights hearings;
- q. inter-basin water transfers;
- r. Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District briefing; and
- s. Chaco Canyon landscape protection.

2. Agriculture, land use, natural resource and game and fish issues, including:
 - a. renewable energy production, electric utility infrastructure and solar energy issues;
 - b. subdivision approval and water source requirements;
 - c. Department of Game and Fish update/mule deer/bear/cougar/elk populations;
 - d. Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill cleanup update; and
 - e. agricultural hemp production.

**Water and Natural Resources Committee
2015 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 1	Santa Fe
July 27-28	Taos
August 31-September 1	Silver City
October 15-16	Ruidoso
November 5-6	Santa Fe